



Islands Trust Conservancy - Executive Committee

Liaison Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020
Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Location: Electronic Zoom Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Introductions and context for annual meeting

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2.1 Agenda Context Notes

3. MINUTES/COORDINATION

3.1 Review of the July 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Items for Information

4.1.1 Introductions:

**See agenda context notes 2.1*

- Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC)
- Executive Committee (EC)
- Review of ITC\EC roles

4.2 Items for Discussion/Direction

4.2.1 Working with the Province

**See agenda context notes 2.1*

- Trust Council Strategic Plan Item

Amend legislation to increase the percentage of the Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program (NAPTEP) to act as an incentive for the protection of forest cover for climate change mitigation and adaptation in the Islands Trust Area.

- Provincial Funding Request

September 2019 RFD from Financial Planning Committee to Trust Council attached.

4.2.2 Working with Trust Council

- COVID-19 Updates (verbal)
- Strategic Planned Giving

**See agenda context notes 2.1*

- Climate Change Emergency Declaration

**See agenda context notes 2.1.*

September 2019 Climate Change Emergency Memo from ITC to Trust Council attached.

1. FireSmart and Ecology / Fire Risk Management
2. Climate Change Projections Report
3. Climate Action Plan

Briefing and Project Charter attached.

- Referrals and communication

**See agenda context notes 2.1*

1. Between TC and ITC
2. Between Committees and ITC

- Budget:

**See agenda context notes 2.1*

1. Fire Risk Assessment
2. Property Management Formula

- Canada Nature Fund (verbal)
- Regional Conservation Plan Update

Progress Report attached.

- Ecosystem Based Management - Requested by EC

1. Ecological Research Network

June 2020 Delegation from Salt Spring Ecological Research Network to Trust Council attached.

4.2.3 Working with Local Trust Committees

**See agenda context notes 2.1*

- LPS\ITC policy
- CDF Tool Kit

4.2.4 Working with First Nations

**See agenda context notes 2.1*

- Reconciliation Declaration and Action Plan
- Crown Land Policy

4.2.5 Working with the Public

- Website (verbal)

5. **NEXT MEETING**

6. **ADJOURNMENT**



Islands Trust Conservancy - Executive Committee Agenda – Context Notes For the meeting of July 14th, 2020

Agenda No.	From	Context Notes
4.1.1	A/ Manager	The ITC had two new Provincial appointees join the board in 2019: Susan Hannon (appointed October 28, 2019) and Donald Clarke (appointed December 31, 2019). Linda Adams was also reappointed for a term of one year in September 2019. All current appointee terms will run until August 27, 2021. The ITC Board said goodbye to Hoops Harrison and Robin Williams who completed their terms in 2019. Board member bios are available at http://www.islandstrustconservancy.ca/about-us/our-staff-and-board/ Information about ITC Board member roles is available at http://www.islandstrustconservancy.ca/media/84832/13-trust-conservancy-board-roles-and-responsibilities-policy.pdf. Information about the role of the Executive Committee (EC) is available at http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/council-committees/executive-committee/responsibilities/ Trust Council/ITC Liaison is required under Islands Trust Bylaw 86 which states that the ITC Board and the TC will meet at least once per year. This meeting is done through the EC/ITC liaison meeting as guided by Islands Trust Policy 6.10.4. The ITC and Trust Council also have a Memorandum of Agreement that identifies the EC as the medium through which local trust committee and the ITC communicate concerns or information regarding joint projects. The EC/ITC Liaison meeting is a regular meeting of the ITC Board. Resolutions may be made and passed by ITC Board members. EC members are guests of the ITC Board for the purpose of the meeting.
4.2.1	A/Manager	<u>Islands Trust Council Strategic Plan</u> The Islands Trust Strategic Plan, approved by Trust Council, includes the following objective and strategy: <u>Objective:</u> Preserve, protect and advocate for forest and terrestrial ecosystems <u>Strategy:</u> Amend legislation to increase the percentage of the Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program (NAPTEP) to act as an incentive for the protection of forest cover for climate change mitigation and adaptation in the Islands Trust Area. Notes: Requested changes to NAPTEP legislation (e.g. NAPTEP Regulation) could be expanded to apply UNDRIP to the legislative language and include provisions for protection of Indigenous cultural features identified in the <i>Heritage Act</i>. <u>Provincial Funding Request</u> At its September 2019 meeting, Trust Council (TC) passed the following resolution, following review of a recommendation from Financial Planning Committee (FPC):

Agenda No.	From	Context Notes
4.2.1 (cont.)	A/Manager	TC-2019-087 MOVED by Trustee Grove, SECONDED by Trustee Stamford, that Trust Council consider approaching the Province of British Columbia to request additional funding for the Islands Trust annual budget, ensuring any request that goes forward is appropriately strategized in line with other requests currently being asked of the Province; and That Trust Council direct staff to work with Executive Committee and the Islands Trust Conservancy Board to strategize an approach for requesting additional funding from the Province. Background Information: <i>See attached Request for Decision from FPC to TC, provided September 18, 2019.</i>
4.2.2	A/Communications and Fundraising Specialist	<u>Strategic Charitable Giving Program</u> Over the course of 2019, the ITC formed a Fund Development Committee and created a fund development strategy which was shared with Trust Council at its March 2020 in camera meeting. As part of the plan, ITC Staff are developing a strategic planned giving program. Strategic charitable giving is about encouraging people to think through their philanthropic goals in terms of personal values, to build a vision for their charitable donations, and to work with professional advisors and charitable organizations to plan their giving. Strategic charitable gifts require some thought about what is important to donors and their family; they tap into key personal values. To explore this people might want to consider things like “What makes your heart race in excitement?” Or “What brought you and your family deep and profound joy?” Or “What do you fiercely wish to protect for future generations”? The ITC wants to find ways to reach people who feel a deep love of the Islands Trust Area, a particular island, conservation, reconciliation and/or the conservation of Indigenous cultural places on the islands. This kind of reflection on personal values gets to the heart of giving.
4.2.2	A/Manager	<u>Climate Change Emergency Declaration</u> Following discussions at the July 2019 ITC/EC liaison meeting, the ITC Board called a Special Meeting to discuss the Islands Trust Climate Change Emergency Declaration and provided recommendations and information to Trust Council at its September 2019 meeting. These recommendations were received for information. Background Information: <i>See attached memo from ITC to Trust Council regarding Climate Change Emergency, provided September 17, 2019</i> ITC is currently working on several climate change related initiatives: • ITC Staff have joined an Islands Trust Climate Policy Working Group to liaise on an Islands Trust Climate Action Plan (see briefing and attachments).

Agenda No.	From	Context Notes
		- The ITC Board received a Climate Change indicators report in May 2020, and approved a Climate Change Project Charter with a purpose “to determine the costs and scope of work associated with better identifying the local area impacts of climate change, in order to adapt Islands Trust Conservancy’s work to best protect local species and ecosystems.” - The ITC Board directed staff to prepare a budget request for the 2021-2022 fiscal year for a report with options and recommendations for managing wildfire risks on ITC conservation properties. <u>Referrals</u> Referrals between ITC and Trust Council/EC are done according to Islands Trust Bylaw 86. In 2019, the ITC has also responded to a request for information from Trust Programs Committee regarding the Climate Change Emergency Declaration. <u>Budget</u> ITC Staff are working to create a property management formula for budget purposes which would tie property management to the management needs of the ITC. The ITC is also working towards a fire risk assessment for its conservation lands and may submit a budget request for this work.
4.2.3	A/Manager	<u>LPS/ITC Communications</u> Referrals between the ITC and local trust committees are done according to the Islands Trust/Islands Trust Conservancy Coordination Policy. In the last year, ITC has received and responded to 6 local trust committee referrals (Gabriola – 1, Mayne – 1, North Pender – 3, Salt Spring – 1). The ITC is currently working on two conservation proposals connected with LTC processes and one that was the result of a referral. <u>CDF Tool Kit</u> Since its last meeting with the EC, the ITC has worked with LPS/LPC to create contiguous forest mapping and has begun outreach to 375 property owners about the importance of forests.
4.2.4	A/Manager	<u>Reconciliation Declaration</u> In 2019, the ITC passed a Reconciliation Declaration and Trust Council has approved a Reconciliation Action Plan (including Trust Council’s Reconciliation Declaration). ITC includes reconciliation actions in its Regional Conservation Plan under Goal 2 – <i>Strengthen relationships with First Nations to identify and collaborate on shared conservation goals.</i>



Islands Trust Conservancy - Executive Committee



Liaison Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2019
Time: 1:08 pm
Location: Islands Trust Victoria Boardroom
200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC

Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC) Board Members Present: Kate-Louise Stamford, Chair
Linda Adams
Sue Ellen Fast (ITC and EC)
Doug Fenton (joined by teleconference at 1:21 pm)
Robin Williams

ITC Board Member On Leave: Hoops Harrison

Executive Committee (EC) Members Present: Peter Luckham, EC Chair
Laura Patrick
Dan Rogers (joined by teleconference at 1:23 pm)

Staff Present: Kate Emmings, ITC Acting Manager
Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer
Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
David Marlor, Director, Local Planning Services
Julia Mobbs, Director, Administrative Services
Alexandra Trifonidis, Acting Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:08 pm. Chair Stamford acknowledged with respect the Lekwungen and Wsanec Saanich peoples on whose traditional territory the meeting was taking place.

1.1 Introductions and Context for Annual Meeting

Chair Stamford welcomed the Executive Committee guests and initiated introductions.

Chair Luckham stated that ITC/EC meetings are important for the effective communications with Islands Trust and that the ITC and the Islands Trust work in parallel.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following additions to the agenda were presented for consideration:

- Item 4.2.1 Working with the Province
 - Amendments to the Forest Practices Code – Trustee Fast

By **general consent** the agenda was approved as amended.

3. MINUTES/COORDINATION

3.1 Review of the July 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The Islands Trust Conservancy Board received the July 17, 2018 meeting minutes for information.

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Items for Information

4.1.1 Introductions

Both the ITC and the EC acknowledged that many of the attendees today have worked together several times over the years.

Review of ITC/EC roles

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Evolution of relationship between ITC and EC
- Cooperative independence between the ITC and EC and the role of that in future relations with the province
- Communication with Islands Trust trustees to add clarity for budget discussions and to build relationship building between elected trustees and appointed members of ITC
- Possible misconception regarding the role of the conservancy plays
- Ways for ITC to communicate the integral role it plays in the Islands Trust

4.2 Items for Discussion/Direction

4.2.1 Working with the Province

Coordination of advocacy

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Should there be a standing item on both EC/ITC agendas?
- ITC board is positioning itself as a more active and engaged body.
- ITC soon to have a new manager and new board member

Actions/recommendations:

That staff add a standing item to the agendas of the ITC/EC regarding consulting with each other for mutual interest.

Amendments to the Forest Practices Code

Trustee Fast brought to everyone's attention that there have been amendments to the BC Forest Practices Code and recommended that they be reviewed from a Trust perspective.

4.2.2 Working with Trust Council

Fund Development Advisory Committee (FDAC)

- FDAC activities to date

The ITC and EC received the provided materials about the work of the FDAC. Discussion ensued over:

- Potential provincial funding request and related process, including timing, amount, use, and the need to collaborate with EC to coordinate provincial funding request
- EC support for ITC to research more funding options
- Consider UBCM as a forum to raise ITC profile with elected officials and other government staff
- request the Conservancy be highlighted or profiled at the Islands Trust UBCM breakfast meeting

Climate Change Emergency Declaration

The ITC and EC members discussed the following:

- ITC input to Trust Council on climate emergency declaration and whether or not the Islands Trust Climate Change Emergency Declaration applies to the ITC
- Role of FireSmart in Climate Change Emergency Declaration, including messaging and communicating to island communities
- Regional Vegetation Management Strategy (as provided in agenda materials)
- Role of Climate Emergency Strategy in the Strategic Plan

Referrals and communication

The overall consensus is communication between the groups is working well.

Discussion ensued around the possibility of future annual Island Planner training with specific mention of including topics to support LTC's. ITC staff are currently doing annual training with planners.

Budget

- Covenant Management and Outreach Position

ITC Acting Manager gave EC an early heads up that ITC will be asking for a budget request for an extension of the new position. ITC does not have an evaluation yet but will be providing one for its budget submission.

- Property Management Formula

ITC Manager provided early information about the ITC intention to create a new Property Management Budget Formula for consideration.

Canada Nature Fund

ITC Acting Manager gave EC background information about this program.

Regional Conservation Plan Reporting

ITC and EC reviewed the Regional Conservation Plan Report provided by staff.

4.2.3 Working with Local Trust Committees (LTCs)

Communicating with LTCs

ITC board members and EC members discussed the following to help mitigate an overall low profile of the Islands Trust Conservancy at the Local Trust Committee level:

- Meetings streamed live
- ITC highlights shared on all islands
- ITC to make a point of coming to the LTCs when feasible

Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF) Tool Kit

- Very informative – LTCs encouraged to use the Tool Kit
- CDF mapping project to begin soon through ITC/LPS staff collaboration
- Legislative powers a concern for some LTCs in protection of CDF forest

Local Trust Area Profiles

Provided to EC for information.

4.2.4 Working with First Nations

Reconciliation Declaration and Action Plan

ITC Reconciliation Declaration provided to EC for information. ITC working on Reconciliation Action Plan.

Crown Land Policy

ITC has not been resourced to do adequate First Nations collaborations for Trust Council's Crown Land acquisition program. With resourcing in the form of a new Senior Intergovernmental Policy Analyst, ITC may be able to move forward on First Nations engagement in the future.

4.2.5 Working with the Public

Website updates

ITC will be updating its website and merging it with the Islands Trust site as part of the website redevelopment project. It is anticipated that the ITC will maintain

much of its visual identity, while merging some webpages with the Islands Trust where there is overlapping content or mutually beneficial content.

5. NEXT MEETING

To be determined in late 2019; in Victoria

6. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting was adjourned at 3:03 pm.

Chair

Certified Correct:

Recorder

REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Council

For the Meeting of: September 18, 2019

From: Financial Planning Committee

Date Prepared: May 29, 2019

SUBJECT: Provincial Funding to Islands Trust

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Trust Council consider approaching the Province of British Columbia to request additional funding for the Islands Trust annual budget, ensuring any request that goes forward is appropriately strategized in line with other requests currently being asked of the Province; and

THAT Trust Council direct staff to work with Executive Committee and the Islands Trust Conservancy Board to strategize an approach for requesting additional funding from the Province.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER COMMENTS:

The provincial mandate given to Islands Trust is intended to provide benefit to all British Columbians. As the environment in which we conduct our work grows in both scope and complexity, increased support from the Province will help secure lasting positive impact that reaches beyond the Trust area borders.

1 PURPOSE:

To bring forward a recommendation from Financial Planning Committee that Trust Council consider approaching the Province of British Columbia to request additional funding for the Islands Trust annual budget.

2 BACKGROUND:

At its February 20, 2019 meeting, Financial Planning Committee made the following resolution:

FPC-2019-006

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Financial Planning Committee recommend to Trust Council to approach the Province to increase funding.

This recommendation comes from a review of the current and historical grant funding received by Islands Trust for their work. This review shows that provincial funding, as a percentage of the total Islands Trust budget has decreased from 16.2% in fiscal 1995 to 2.3% in fiscal 2020. Historical provincial funding data can be found on the Islands Trust [website](#), and has been transposed here for information:

YEAR	Provincial Grant	Grant (Decrease) Since 1991 ^④	Grant as % of Budget
2019/20	180,000	(314,145)	2.3%
2018/19	180,000	(314,145)	2.2%
2017/18	180,000	(314,145)	2.3%
2016/17	180,000	(314,145)	2.5%
2015/16	180,000	(314,145)	2.5%
2014/15	119,122	(375,023)	1.7%
2013/14	85,184	(408,961)	1.2%
YEAR	Provincial Grant	Grant (Decrease) Since 1991 ^④	Grant as % of Budget
2012/13	186,998	(307,147)	2.7%
2011/12	247,710	(246,435)	3.6%
2010/11	50,545	(443,600)	0.8%
2009/10	318,331	(175,814)	5.0%
2008/09	156,000	(338,145)	2.5%
2007/08	138,000	(356,145)	2.5%
2006/07	120,000	(374,145)	2.5%
2005/06	178,000	(316,145)	4.1%
2004/05	236,000	(258,145)	5.7%
2003/04	294,000	(200,145)	7.4%
2002/03	352,000	(142,145)	8.8%
2001/02	352,000	(142,145)	9.0%
2000/01	352,000	(142,145)	9.3%
1999/00	352,000	(142,145)	9.9%
1998/99	423,000	(71,145)	12.0%
1997/98	423,000	(71,145)	12.0%
1996/97	469,435	(24,710)	13.2%
1995/96	469,435	(24,710)	14.3%
1994/95	469,435	(24,710)	16.2%

The work of the Trust is becoming increasingly important as the impacts of climate change intensify. Additional funding from the Province would allow for the continued improvement and growth in the delivery of Trust services, and in particular the work of the Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC), to help combat these negative effects. As the Trust regularly finds itself ineligible to apply for specific grants due to its unique governance, structure, and mandate, funding is required from other sources.

Strategy in how to approach the Province and what messaging should accompany the request for more funding is a crucial consideration, as other provincial requests are currently being considered, such as amendments to the Islands Trust Act.

At the EC-ITCB liaison meeting held on July 16, 2019, identified rationales to support an increase in funding from the province included:

- ITC operational costs continue to increase as the volume of acquired and covenanted land grows each year. The cost of monitoring and protecting these lands is also increasing. ITC is currently work on a formula to determine the average cost per hectare of land protected. Worthy of note is the fact that there is no revenue source to ITC to offset increasing land acquisition and land protection costs, in the way that Islands Trust has the ability to generate fees revenues to offset planning-related costs.
- Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy have committed to First Nations reconciliation and adopted a Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2022. This plan includes the development of a Cultural Working Group to work closely and in collaboration with Nations to preserve and

protect their cultural heritage within the Trust area. This work will require financial resources. Additionally, First Nations have expressed to Islands Trust that positive, lasting, and meaningful relationships could be developed by way of specific actions taken by Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy. Such specifics include: Providing education to island constituents on reconciliation and FN governments in the Trust area; and engaging in a way that ensures the principles outlined by the Ministry and within UNDRIP and the TRC are reflected in our land-use decisions, our land management, and our bylaw and referral processes.

These items may be considered for inclusion in the request of the Province for additional funding in the Islands Trust budget.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (the Ministry) approves the Islands Trust financial plan bylaw in the first quarter of each fiscal year. It would be desirable to have additional funding approved in the Islands Trust 2020/21 budget, which will be forwarded to the Ministry at the end of March 2020.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL: Staff and trustee time to prepare correspondence and coordinate approach with other potential political asks of the Ministry.

FINANCIAL: Any changes in funding from the province would be incorporated into the budget for the next budget cycle.

POLICY: None.

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: None.

FIRST NATIONS: None.

OTHER: None.

4 RELEVANT POLICY(S): None.

5 ATTACHMENT(S): None.

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendation:

THAT Trust Council consider approaching the Province of British Columbia to request additional funding for the Islands Trust annual budget, ensuring any request that goes forward is appropriately strategized in line with other requests currently being asked of the Province; and
THAT Trust Council direct staff to work with Executive Committee and the Islands Trust Conservancy Board to strategize an approach for requesting additional funding from the province.

Alternative:

THAT Trust Council not approach the Province of British Columbia to request additional funding.

Prepared By: Julia Mobbs, Director, Administrative Services

Reviewed By: Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer



MEMORANDUM

File No.: 6000-20
Climate Change Emergency

DATE OF MEETING: September 17, 2019
TO: Trust Council
FROM: Islands Trust Conservancy Board
COPY: Islands Trust Executive Committee
Trust Programs Committee
SUBJECT: Climate Change Emergency, Trust Council referral to Islands Trust Conservancy

PURPOSE

To make recommendations to Trust Council regarding developing a climate emergency strategy for inclusion in the Strategic Plan.

BACKGROUND

At its June 2019 meeting, Trust Council passed the following resolution:

That the reports on the climate emergency received at Trust Council be referred to the Trust Programs Committee, Local Planning Committee, and the Islands Trust Conservancy and that they be requested to make recommendations to Trust Council with regards to developing a climate emergency strategy for inclusion in the Strategic Plan.

On August 7, 2019, the Islands Trust Conservancy Board held a Special Meeting to discuss Trust Council's request.

REFERRAL RESPONSE FOR TRUST COUNCIL

At its August 7, 2019 Special Meeting, the Islands Trust Conservancy passed the following resolutions:

ITC-2019-027

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board request that Trust Council consider the following as it develops a climate emergency strategy for inclusion in the Strategic Plan:

- Increased budget for professional advice and mapping;
- The role of the Islands Trust Conservancy in storage and sequestration of carbon within its Nature Reserves and Covenant Areas and the property management needs associated with this role;
- Education about the benefits of forest cover;
- Increase communications resources to promote voluntary conservation options such as NAPTEP; and,
- Information regarding all current ITC climate change mitigation and adaptation activities.

ITC-2019-028

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board ask Trust Council to request that the province amend legislation to increase the percentage of the Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program (NAPTEP) tax exemption in order to incentivize the protection of forest cover for climate change mitigation and adaptation in the Islands Trust Area.

CURRENT ITC CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIVITIES

The ITC Board requested that staff outline the current activities that the ITC undertakes to address climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Regional Conservation Plan

The [Regional Conservation Plan](#) guides most of the work of the ITC Board. The Regional Conservation Plan includes goals that address the climate change emergency as follows:

Goal 1: Identify, investigate and communicate about important natural areas to generate action on conservation projects.

The ITC undertakes and shares mapping to identify areas of high biodiversity priority including:

- Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping, including identification of forest type and age and sensitive ecosystems
- Shoreline mapping, including eelgrass mapping
- Carbon sequestration and storage mapping of forests
- Modelling of high biodiversity areas including factors of forest age, connectivity, ecosystem representation, rare and sensitive ecosystems and development risk factors

Goal 2: Strengthen relationships with First Nations to identify and collaborate on shared conservation goals.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) recognizes that Indigenous Peoples are often the first to feel the effects of climate change. It also recognizes that Indigenous Peoples have evolved with a changing climate over millennia and possess Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) that will be locally and globally valuable. The ITC has recognized a need to strengthen its relationships with First Nations to identify and collaborate on shared conservation goals and has begun to more fully reach out to First Nations in its mapping and research work as well as through its land management program.

Goal 3: Continue to secure and manage Islands Trust Conservancy lands and conservation covenants to maximize ecological integrity.

- The ITC uses its high biodiversity mapping to prioritize conservation projects and has introduced information into its requests for decision to identify benefits and risks associated with climate change.
- The ITC manages its lands to maintain biodiversity, including restoring degraded areas through re-establishment of vegetation and management of invasive species.

Goal 4: Continue to build internal and shared organizational strength and resilience to ensure long-term nature conservation in the Islands Trust Area.

- The ITC is building its capacity to engage in land conservation through establishment of various funds for land acquisition, management and defense.

- The ITC is beginning to incorporate climate change into communications messaging in news releases, communications materials and signage.

NEXT STEPS

The ITC Board, in addition to providing the recommendations to Trust Council noted above, has also passed the following resolution:

ITC-2019-026

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

That the Islands Trust Conservancy Board direct staff to incorporate the climate change actions as discussed at the meeting of August 7, 2019 into staff work programs and develop budgets as required.

ITC staff will work to meet this resolution for the October 1, 2019 ITC Board meeting.

Submitted By:	Kate Emmings, A/Manager, Islands Trust Conservancy	August 8, 2019
Concurrence:	Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services	August 16, 2019

ATTACHMENTS

None.

BRIEFING

To: Executive Committee **For the Meeting of:** July 14, 2020
From: Clare Frater, Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** July 2, 2020
SUBJECT: Development of Islands Trust Climate Action Plan

PURPOSE: To develop a strategic and integrated Islands Trust Climate Action Plan, to be jointly endorsed by both Trust Council and the Islands Trust Conservancy Board.

BACKGROUND: In March 2020, staff from Trust Area Services (TAS), Local Planning Services (LPS) and the Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC) identified the need to better coordinate, synergize and strategize their respective climate action policies and programming and to avoid unnecessary duplication and inefficiencies. The nature of climate change is multidisciplinary and cuts across the traditional divides of these three departments. With this in mind, TAS established a Climate Policy Working Group (CPWG) comprised of one staff member from each department. The CPWG has been working together to map out the various climate change related programming currently underway in all three departments (Attachment 1) and is in the process of developing a Climate Action Plan (Attachment 2) to better communicate the Trust's climate action goals, priorities, programs and key messages to the public via the new Islands Trust website and other means. The Climate Action Plan is also intended to inform current and future climate change related programming and budget allocations for both Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy. As there is currently no governance mechanism for Trust Council and the ITC Board to jointly develop strategic policy guidance on this common theme, staff are seeking guidance from both Trust Council (via Executive Committee) and the ITC Board to proceed with work on a joint Climate Action Plan that would be endorsed by both political bodies. A draft Project Charter was developed for this purpose (Attachment 3). The draft Climate Action Plan in development would be brought to both Trust Council and the ITC Board for approval prior to its public release.

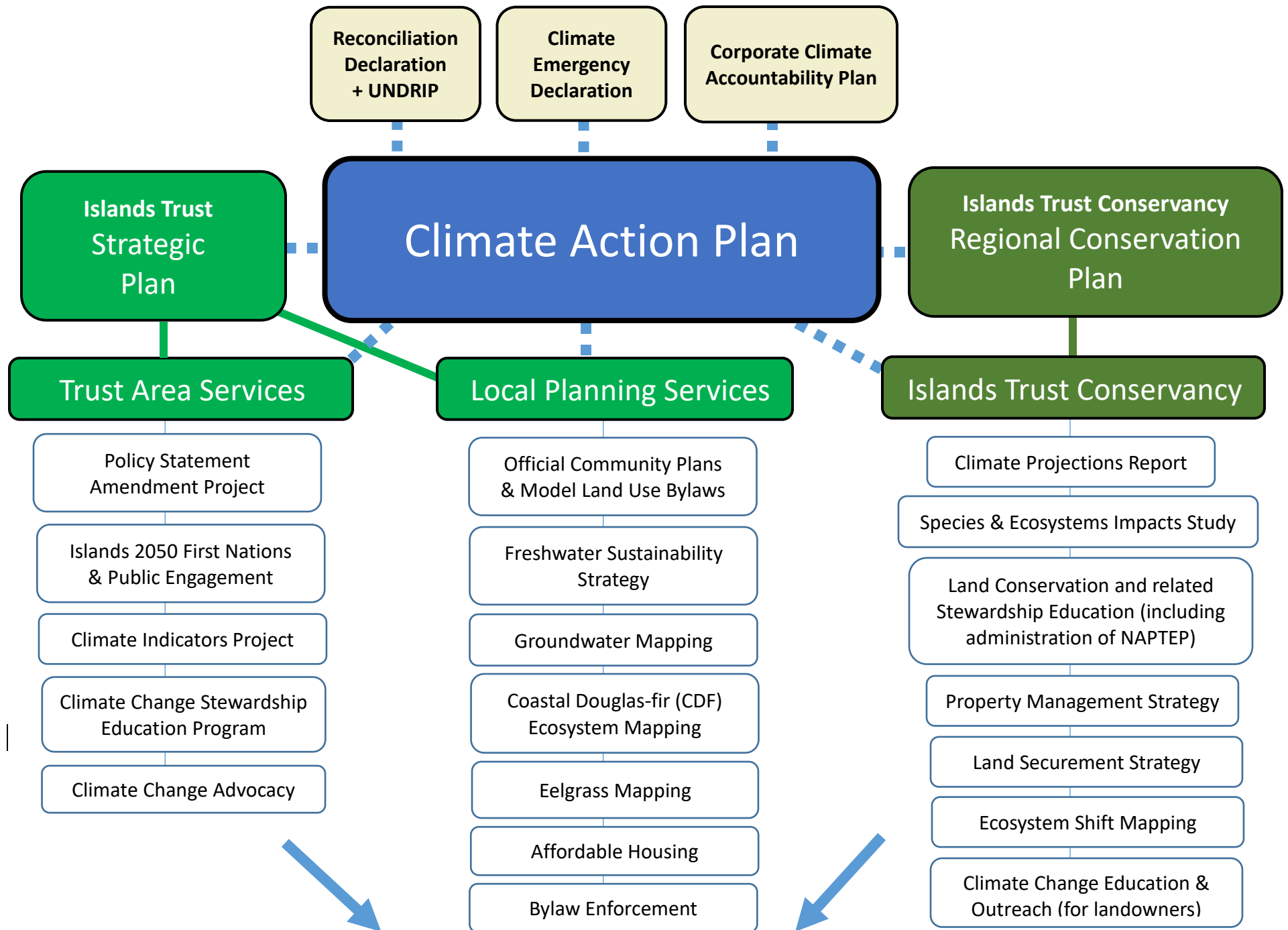
ATTACHMENT(S):

1. CPWG Project Synergies Chart
2. Islands 2050 Climate Action Framework
3. Climate Action Plan Project Charter 1.0

FOLLOW-UP: The CPWG will continue to develop the Islands Trust Climate Action Plan and bring a draft report to both Trust Council and the ITC Board at their Fall 2020 meetings.

Prepared By: Dilani Hippola, A/Senior Policy Advisor, Trust Area Services
Narissa Chadwick, Island Planner, Local Planning Services
Kate Emmings, A/Manager, Islands Trust Conservancy

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services / June 30, 2020
Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer / July 2, 2020



Islands 2050 - Climate Action Framework

*The following draft framework provides an outline of key points to be elaborated upon in more detail and then published as the **Islands Trust Climate Action Plan**.*

A State of Climate Emergency

- Land Acknowledgment + Reconciliation Declaration + UNDRIP/DRIPA + Indigenous Knowledge
“Indigenous peoples have thousands of years of knowledge that comes from the intrinsic relationship we have with our territories and ecosystems. The inclusion of this knowledge is essential to the success of policies and measures directed towards mitigating and adapting to climate change” (BCAFN)
- Islands Trust Mandate - We’ve Been Addressing Climate Change in Different Ways for Decades
- The State of Affairs: 2018 IPCC Report and 2019 Islands Trust Declaration of Climate Emergency
- 2020-2050 Window of Opportunity Narrative (PINNA Climate Projections Report)
- Valuing Natural Assets / Enhancing Biodiversity = Increased Resilience to Climate Change
- Climate Risk & Vulnerability of Islands in the Trust Area
- Climate Action & Equity Issues
- Learning from COVID-19 – The Need for Resilient Systems / The Possibilities for Behavioural Change
- We Can’t Do It Alone – Identifying Key Partners in Climate Action

Impacts of Climate Change on the Islands Trust Area

Land & Freshwater: Changing Temperatures and Precipitation Patterns

- increased storm surge flooding and windstorms pose risks to food crops, forests and infrastructure and lead to more frequent power outages
- lower groundwater levels and saltwater intrusion threaten groundwater quality and quantity
- droughts increase risk of wildfires
- stronger, more frequent storms scour streambeds, leading to loss of riparian and aquatic habitat
- warmer temperatures and drier summers lead to loss of some plant and animal species and shifting abundance of others
- disruption of seasonal timing of plant and animal life cycles impacts biodiversity and food security
- new invasive species threaten biodiversity and ecosystem function

Shorelines: Sea-Level Rise

- coastal erosion poses risks to Indigenous cultural and archaeological sites as well as private and public property on shorelines
- changes to shoreline habitats plus loss of spawning beaches / rearing habitats threatens biodiversity
- coastal inundation and reduced drainage capacity leads to flooding and soil salination, and impacts island accessibility (ferries/private docks)

Oceans: Warmer, More Acidic Oceans

- lead to migration, disease, loss of habitat and decreased reproduction of aquatic species, which in turn lead to:
 - threats to Indigenous food security (e.g. herring, salmon, shellfish)
 - threats to marine food web for species at risk (e.g. Southern Resident Killer Whale)
 - threats to biodiversity

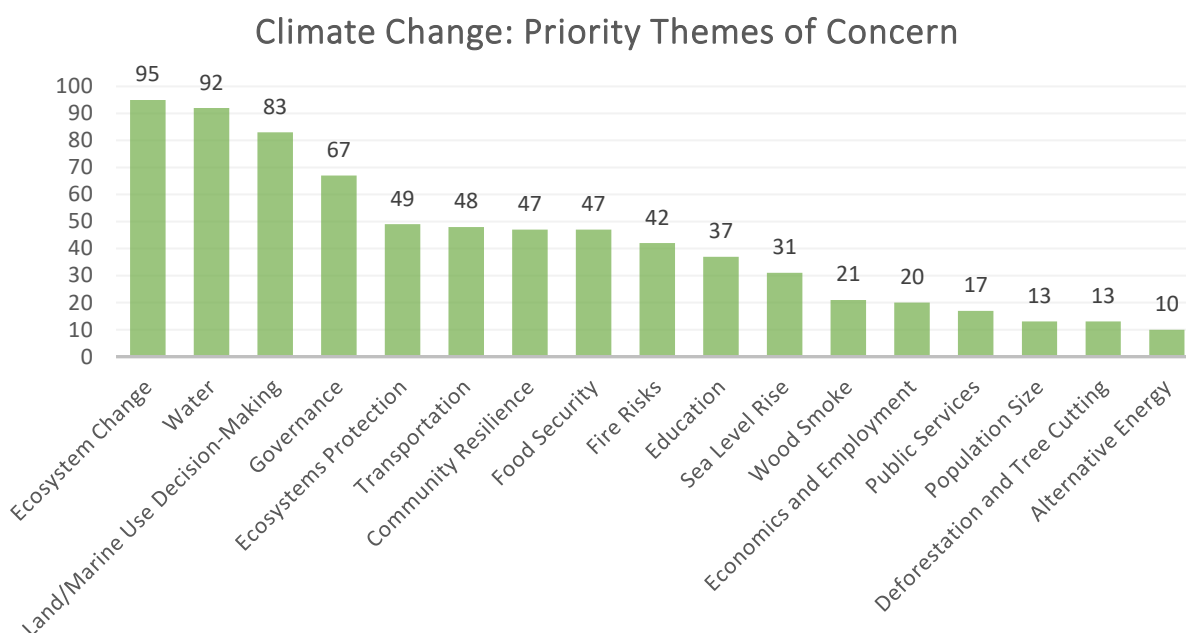
What We've Heard – Priority Concerns in the Trust Area

Islands 2050 First Nations Engagement Feedback:

(List priority themes of concern emerging from ongoing Islands 2050 First Nations Engagement; highlight UNDRIP Articles 18, 25, 29.1, and 32.1.)

Islands 2050 Public Engagement Feedback:

- Through the Islands 2050 public engagement campaign, we asked communities in the Islands Trust Area, “In the context of a changing climate, what are your concerns for the next 30 years?” and this is what we heard...



Our Commitments to Climate Action

- The Islands Trust Object Our Core Mandate to Preserve & Protect
- Reconciliation Declaration
- Fed/Prov Commitments & Bill 27 Requirements
- Corporate Climate Accountability Plan
- OCP GHG Reduction Targets to 2050
- Policy Statement & OCP Review with Climate Lens
- Islands Trust 2018-2022 Strategic Plan Priorities
- Islands Trust Conservancy Regional Conservation Plan Goals

Islands 2050 Climate Action Priorities

Specific strategic goals will be built on the priorities listed below. Planning & programming tools will be identified (e.g. Model Development Permit Areas, Regulatory By-Laws, Rezoning, Density Transfer, Landscaping/Site Orientation, Stewardship Education Program, Social Media Strategy, etc.)

Research

1. Climate Projections, Data Sets & Performance Indicators
2. Groundwater Mapping
3. Forest/Ecosystem Mapping
4. Eelgrass, Kelp Bed and Spawning Beach Mapping
5. Sea Level Rise Mapping (not currently planned)

Land-Use Planning

Mitigation: *Human interventions to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases (GHGs).*

1. Carbon Sink Protection and Restoration
2. Compact, Complete and Connected Land-Use
3. Low- to Zero-Emission Transportation
4. Building Efficiency and Renewable Energy Systems
5. Low Carbon Agricultural Practices

Adaptation: *The process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects. In human systems, adaptation seeks to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In natural systems, human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its effects.*

1. Watershed Sustainability and Resilience
2. Terrestrial & Aquatic Species and Ecosystems Protection
3. Shoreline Protection
4. Emergency, Hazard and Risk Management
5. Natural Assets, Infrastructure & Food Crop Protection

Public Education and Outreach

1. Water Conservation, including Rainwater Harvesting
2. Blue Carbon Storage / Eelgrass Protection
3. The Importance of Biodiversity for Climate Resilience / Ecosystem-based Adaptation
4. Green Carbon Storage / Forest Protection including NAPTEP & Wildfire Risk Management
5. Greening Shorelines / The Benefits of Soft Shore Protection

Reconciliation

- Specify areas for collaboration with First Nations / Indigenous Knowledge on Climate Change under thematic priorities identified above

Advocacy & Partnerships

- Specify advocacy priorities and partnerships with other government agencies as they relate to thematic priorities identified above (where issues fall outside our core mandate/jurisdiction)

Climate Action Plan Project Charter v 1.0

Islands Trust & Islands Trust Conservancy

Date: July 14, 2020

Purpose: To define the budget and scope of work associated with integrating the climate action work of Trust Area Services, Local Planning Services and Islands Trust Conservancy into a consolidated Islands Trust Climate Action Plan with jointly defined strategic priorities and communication tools.

Background: In March 2020, Trust Area Services, Local Planning Services and Islands Trust Conservancy established a staff-led Climate Policy Working Group (CPWG) to better coordinate, strategize and synergize climate action policies, tools and programs amongst the three departments and to avoid duplication and inefficiencies. The group is developing an integrated Climate Action Plan to communicate the Trust's climate action goals, priorities, programs and key messages to the public via the new Islands Trust website and other means. The plan will also serve to inform existing and future climate-related policies and programming for both Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy and related budget allocations.

Objectives

- Develop a strategic Islands Trust Climate Action Plan document to be approved by both Trust Council and ITC Board
- Develop joint high-level Climate Change Communications Plan to guide the development of Climate Action webpage on new website and other related communications tools
- Develop a framework to guide current and future climate change related research & mapping; policy planning & programming; education & outreach; and advocacy priorities

In Scope

- Biweekly meetings of the staff Climate Policy Working Group (TAS/LPS/ITC)
- Consolidating existing climate policies and programming into joint Climate Action Plan
- Meetings/consultations with key staff/trustees to refine climate action priorities
- Meetings with key staff/First Nations to Incorporate Indigenous knowledge and align with priorities of Nations in the Trust Area
- Environmental scan of other local govt plans & LTC climate action initiatives
- Developing a high-level Climate Change Communications Plan and Climate Action webpage for the new IT/ITC website
- Developing Climate Action Programming Business Cases for Budget 2021/22

Out of Scope

- Original research
- Production of data
- New programming

Workplan Overview

Deliverable/Milestone	Date
Develop draft Islands Trust Climate Action Plan	July-August 2020
Consultations with key Staff / Trustees / First Nations (incl TC and ITC Board)	August-October 2020
Launch Climate Action Plan with public communications tools (new webpage launch, news release, social media strategy, community outreach, etc.)	November 2020-January 2021

Project Team

Clare Frater	Project Manager
Dilani Hippola	Project Coordinator and Working Group Lead—Trust Area Services
Narissa Chadwick	Working Group Lead—Local Planning
Kathryn Martell	Working Group Lead—Conservancy
Kate Emmings	Advisor to Working Group—Conservancy

Budget 2020/21

Budget Source: 2020/21 Trust Area Services Communications Budget

Item	Approximate-Cost
Public Communications (graphic design for final report + web graphics, video and/or print materials)	\$2,500
Total	\$2,500

Approved by:

Date:

Endorsement:

Resolution #:

Date:

Regional Conservation Plan (2018-2027)	
2018-2020 Workplan Progress Highlights - July 14, 2020	
Goal 1. Identify, investigate and communicate about important natural areas to generate action on conservation priorities	
Mapping, Data and Analysis	
Complete	Forage fish mapping completed for James and Sidney Islands
	Updated species at risk information for lands management by the ITC.
	Worked with LPS to obtaining mapping for contiguous Coastal Douglas-fir forests in the Islands Trust Area
	Updated contact database (CRM) and migrated data
	Commissioned a Climate Change Indicators Report
Ongoing	Annual updates for Species and Ecosystems at Risk Data and Critical Habitat designations
	Annual protected areas updates
	Maintain information on priority conservation lands
In Progress	Updating conservation priority modelling to integrate new data
	Updating metadata (information about data) for existing datasets
	Training for staff regarding contact database (CRM)
	Exploring opportunities for Bull Kelp mapping for possible execution in the 2021-2023 work plan.
	Developing internal database (within TAPIS) for storage of property management information and migrating information from spreadsheets.
Workplan Changes/Notes	Considering mapping expected shift in ecosystems due to climate change for 2050 and 2080 and integrating these predictions into conservation model
	Forage fish mapping remains incomplete. Staff continue to investigate options to complete mapping for Gabriola and Saturna, but options are currently limited.
Information Sharing	
Complete	Local Trust Area/Island Municipality Profiles created with data highlights
	Data shared with 15 agencies
	Annual updates to BC Conservation Areas Database, complete for 2018 & 2019
	Updated internal and external mapping system (TAPIS) with 2017 sensitive ecosystem mapping and 2018 James/Sidney Islands Forage Fish Mapping
	Issued News Release regarding Climate Change Indicators Report and provided it by eNews to subscriber list and island conservancies
	Completed transition to digital data collection during site visits and property monitoring
	Provided training to LPS staff and newly elected trustees and ITC Board members

	Assisted Islands Trust with Islands 2050 information panels
Ongoing	Provide annual information training to LPS staff and Trust Council
	Meet annually with Islands Trust Executive Committee
In progress	Updating Islands Trust website to include information sharing options
	Training staff and revising digital data collection tools
Workplan	Considering adding further data to the open data available on MapIT (e.g. Marine and Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping)
Changes/Notes	
Goal 2. Strengthen relationships with First Nations to identify and collaborate on shared conservation goals	
Looking internally	
Complete	Updated Conservation Covenant template with language to protect archaeological and cultural sites
	Staff and ITC Board training regarding reconciliation and the Nations in the Islands Trust region
	Budgeted to allow increased First Nations engagement for property management
	Adopted Reconciliation Declaration and wrote to First Nations to share Reconciliation Declaration language
Ongoing	Continued learning for staff and ITC Board
	Updated Management Plan and Baseline Report templates to improve First Nations information
	Drafted template for Management Plan for Areas of Cultural Heritage and Sacred Significance
	First Nations territory acknowledged in news releases
In progress	Contemplating integration of ITC into Islands Trust Reconciliation Action Plan (July 2020)
	Revising ITC Vision Statement to include acknowledgement of First Nations
	Working to increase First Nations engagement in ITC Property Management
	Working to include better language and recognition of First Nations through our website renewal project
Workplan	Soon to initiate policy revisions to better reflect engagement of First Nations in land securement and management
Changes/Notes	
Working with First Nations	
Complete	Reached out and offered mapping resources to First Nations
	Worked to build relationship with Penelakut Tribe with a focus on management of conservation lands on Thetis Island
Ongoing	Continue to identify and pursue opportunities to share resources with First Nations in areas of mutual interest
In Progress	Participating in Sidney Island Forest Restoration Program with Penelakut, Tsawout, Pauquachin, Lyackson and Tsartlip First Nations
	Developing relationship with Penelakut for land management on Thetis Island
Workplan	Continue to seek opportunities to work collaboratively with Islands Trust to build relationships with First Nations
Changes/Notes	Continue to explore tools to protect cultural and archaeological sites where compatible with ITC land conservation work
Goal 3. Continue to secure and manage Islands Trust Conservancy lands and conservation covenants to maximize ecological integrity	

Property Management	
Complete	Updated Baseline Report and Management Plan Templates
	Completed planning for property monitoring transition, including development of a budget case for a new Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist
	Management Plans for four nature reserves completed (Thetis and Gambier), with ongoing work with First Nations
	Reviewed property monitoring transition and evaluated Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist position
	Submitted budget request to permanently continue the Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist position
Ongoing	Trail and tree management on Denman, Salt Spring, Gabriola and Galiano
	Revised to two management plans (Denman) and developed three new management plans (Denman, Thetis and Lasqueti)
	Work with covenant landowners to manage invasive species
	Annual monitoring of seventy-six conservation covenants and twenty-nine nature reserves
	Member of Capital Region Invasive Species Partnership
In progress	Revisions to four management plans (Denman and Salt Spring) and development of three new management plans (Denman, Thetis and Lasqueti)
	Improving TAPIS database for better storage of property management information
	Invasive species management on Denman, Salt Spring, Galiano, and Gambier nature reserves
	Trail and tree management on Gabriola and Bowen, wetland restoration project on Lasqueti
	Addressing issues of trespass on three properties
	Working with First Nations, Parks Canada and others on the Sidney Island Ecological Restoration Project
	Trail design and building on Fairyslipper Forest Nature Reserve, Thetis Island
	Revising two nature reserve management plans (Salt Spring)
Workplan Changes/Notes	Develop region-wide wildfire response strategy for conservation lands in consultation with island fire departments and BC Wildfire Service
Land Conservation	
Complete	Valens Brook Nature Reserve addition transferred to ITC
	Salish View Nature Reserve acquisition completed in partnership with Lasqueti island Nature Conservancy
	Registered NAPTEP covenant on Link Island
	Issued Opportunity Fund Grants for five projects
	Rare species inventories for Salish View Nature Reserve acquisition project
Ongoing	Meet with landowners interesting in conservation (3 onsite meetings, 2018/2019, 3 onsite meetings 2019/2020, 2 onsite meetings 2020/2021 (to date), respond to 10-15 inquiries annually with detailed information)
	Continue to develop relationships with landowners who have expressed interest in conservation

	Steering Committee member for Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Program (CDFCP) and member of Securement Working Group
In Progress	Five covenants and three nature reserve acquisitions in negotiation
	Outreach to 375 landowners across the Islands Trust Area with large forest patches (part of Coastal Douglas-fir outreach)
Workplan Changes/Notes	
Goal 4. Continue to build internal and shared organizational strength and resilience to ensure long-term nature conservation in the Islands Trust Area	
Strong Finances	
Complete	Created a Fund Development Advisory Committee to work towards external funding supports for large ITC projects
	Developed a Funding Strategy
	Met with Victoria Foundation to provide information about options for giving and ITC Funds
	Added a note to financial statements regarding the importance of Natural Assets to communities
Ongoing	Manage finances and complete annual financial audits
In Progress	Developing a Strategic Planned Giving Action Program based on recommendations from the Fund Development Strategy
	Developing a funding partnership with the Federal Government for Species at Risk work
Workplan Changes/Notes	Contemplating a campaign to replenish the Opportunity Fund
Strong Communication	
Complete	Participated in CDF Tool Kit workshop (Galiano)
	Completed name change for Islands Trust Conservancy, including updated website and communications materials and giving program forms and information
	Assisted Islands Trust with development of business case and RFP for a new website
	Celebrations for one new covenant and two new nature reserves
	Participated in the Gabriola LTC's "Stories From Home: Exploring Key Themes to Address Gabriola's Housing Needs While Protecting the Environment"
Ongoing	Updating signage to new logo as appropriate
	Develop image bank for communications materials
	Issue Enews regularly and Heron newsletter once each year
In Progress	Working with Trust Area Services to conduct landowner outreach regarding forest ecosystems.
	Promotion of 30th Anniversary - newsletter/website stories and profiles, 30th property celebration, celebration (online) , etc.

	Participating in website redesign project with Islands Trust, integrating Islands Trust Conservancy webpage with Islands Trust webpage.
Workplan Changes/Notes	Updated the ITC webpage and developed and communicated out regarding revised workplans in response to CoViD-19 pandemic.
Ongoing Learning	
Complete	Board and staff participated in awareness training regarding working with First Nations
	Staff and a board member participated in the Land Trust Alliance of BC Seminar Series
	ITC property and covenant management staff participated in Invasive Alien Species database training
	The ITC Chair participated in the annual Union of BC Municipalities conference
	Staff participated in BC Protected Areas Research Forum
	Attended the Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference remotely
Ongoing	Continue to improve awareness of First Nations and engagement work with First Nations
In Progress	Support Board and staff training related to fundraising and fund development
Workplan Changes/Notes	



Ecological Research Network: A Concept to Support the Islands Trust Strategic Plan

Tara Martin, Briony Penn, Ruth Waldick, Susan Hannon, Hannah Carpendale

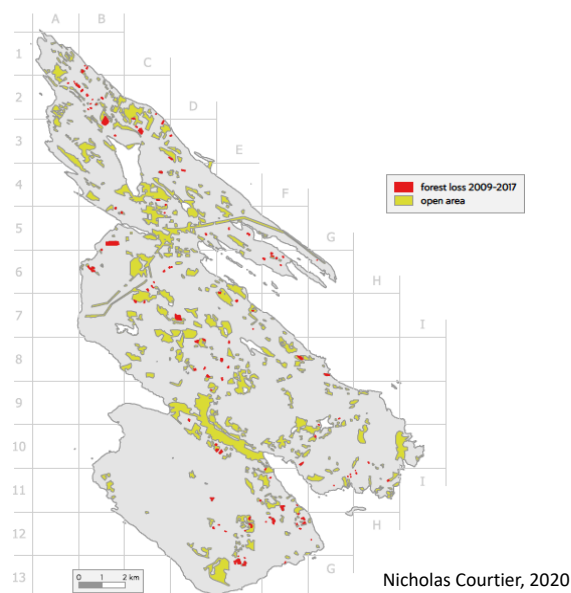
What we offer

1. Up-to-date Science, Data and Decision-Making Tools
2. Timely and defensible knowledge to inform Ecosystem Based Management
3. High return on investment
4. Collaboration



Understanding cumulative impacts

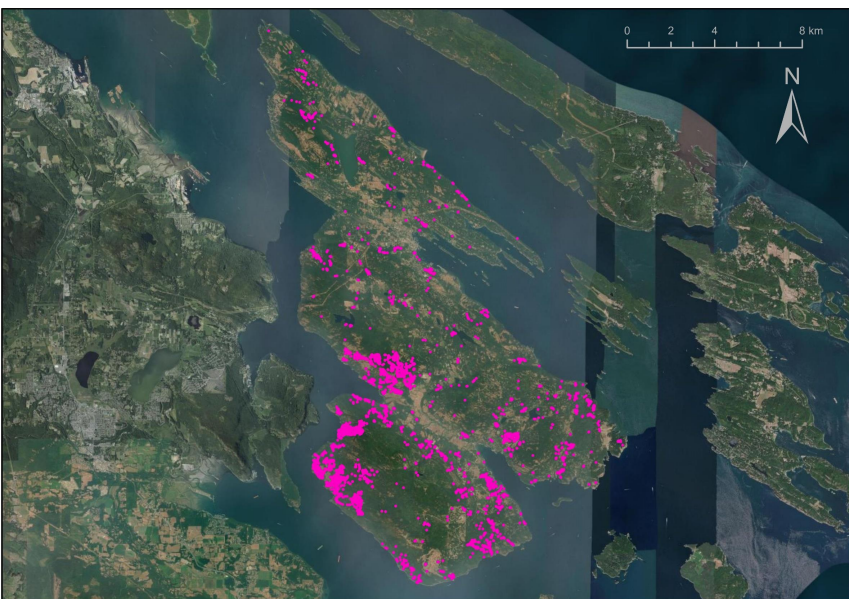
- Land Use Change
- Climate Change
- Loss of Understory
- Fire Ecology
- Invasive Species



Understanding cumulative impacts

- **Land Use Change**
- Climate Change
- Loss of Understory
- Fire Ecology
- Invasive Species



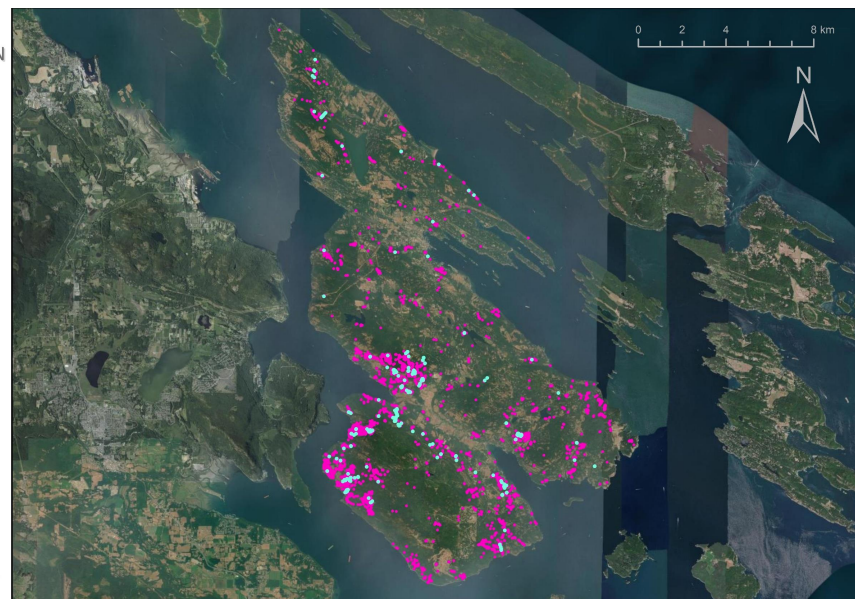


TALL TREE DISTRIBUTION

- Trees >50m

Cassandra Holt
Conservation Decisions Lab
Dept. of Forest and
Conservation Sciences
tara.martin@ubc.ca
June 8, 2020
GCS_WGS_1984
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri,
DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar
Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,
USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS
User Community

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Forestry

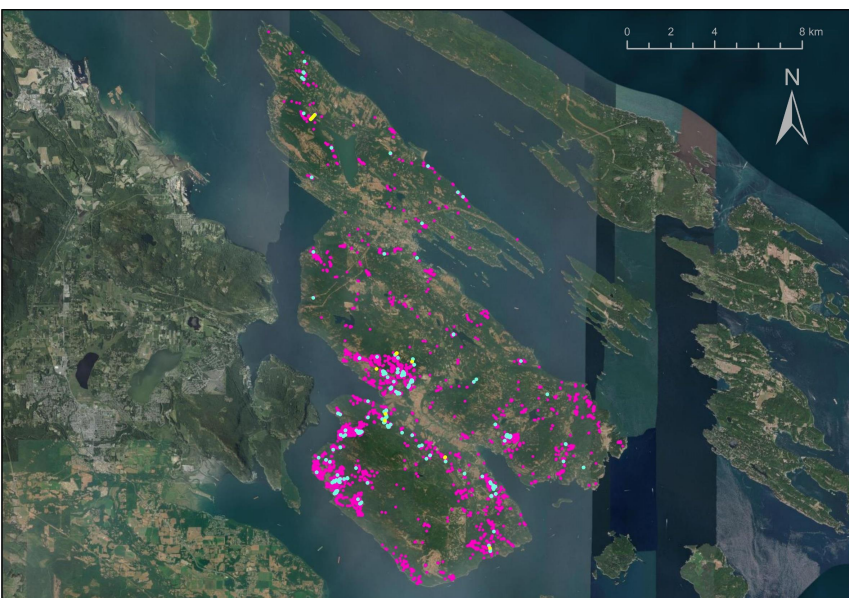


TALL TREE DISTRIBUTION

- Trees >50m
- Trees >60m

Cassandra Holt
Conservation Decisions Lab
Dept. of Forest and
Conservation Sciences
tara.martin@ubc.ca
June 8, 2020
GCS_WGS_1984
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri,
DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar
Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,
USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS
User Community

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Forestry

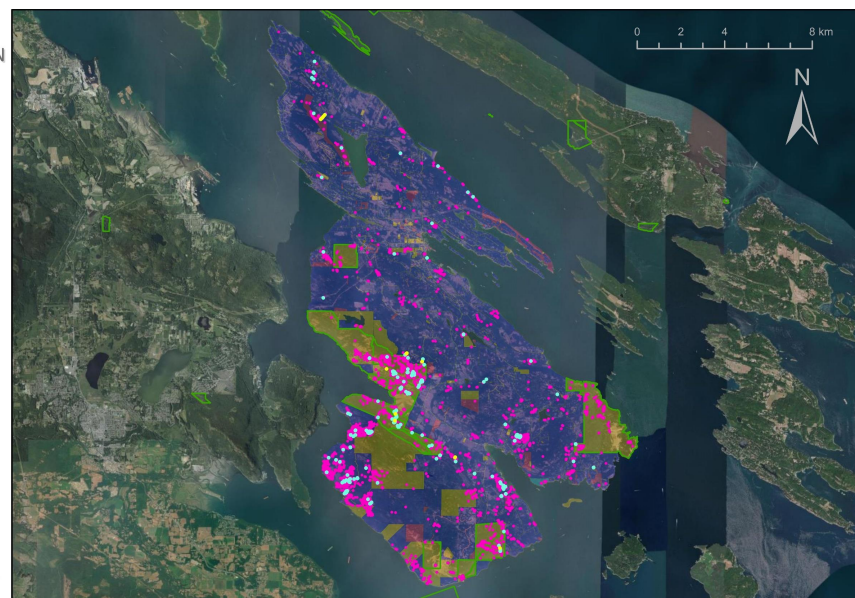


TALL TREE DISTRIBUTION

- Trees >50m
- Trees >60m
- Trees >70m

Cassandra Holt
Conservation Decisions Lab
Dept. of Forest and
Conservation Sciences
tara.martin@ubc.ca
June 8, 2020
GCS_WGS_1984
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri,
DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar
Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,
USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS
User Community

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Forestry



TALL TREE DISTRIBUTION

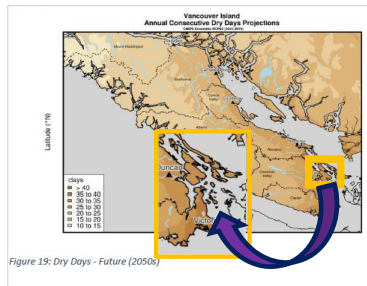
- Trees >50m
- Trees >60m
- Trees >70m
- Crown/government
- First Nation Reserve
- Mixed/unknown
- Private
- Protected Areas

Cassandra Holt
Conservation Decisions Lab
Dept. of Forest and
Conservation Sciences
tara.martin@ubc.ca
June 8, 2020
GCS_WGS_1984
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri,
DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar
Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,
USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS
User Community

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Forestry

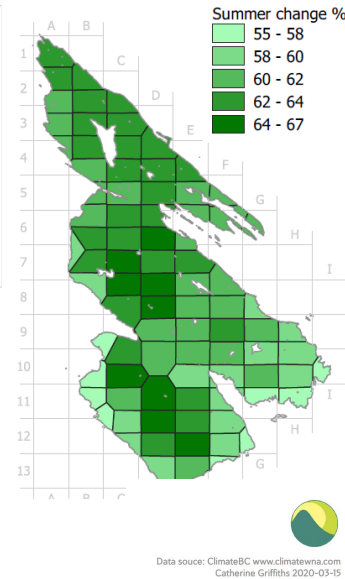
Understanding cumulative impacts

- Land Use Change
- **Climate Change**
- Loss of understory
- Fire Ecology
- Invasive Species



Excerpt from IT Conservancy Climate Projections for Islands Trust Area Report. 2020. Pinna Sustainability

% Summer moisture deficit
PCIC climate data downscaled for SSI (Waldick for CAP 2.0)



Understanding cumulative impacts

- Land Use Change
- Climate Change
- **Understory loss**
- Fire Ecology
- Invasive Species



Understanding cumulative impacts

- Land Use Change
- Climate Change
- **Understory loss**
- Fire Ecology
- Invasive Species



Understanding cumulative impacts

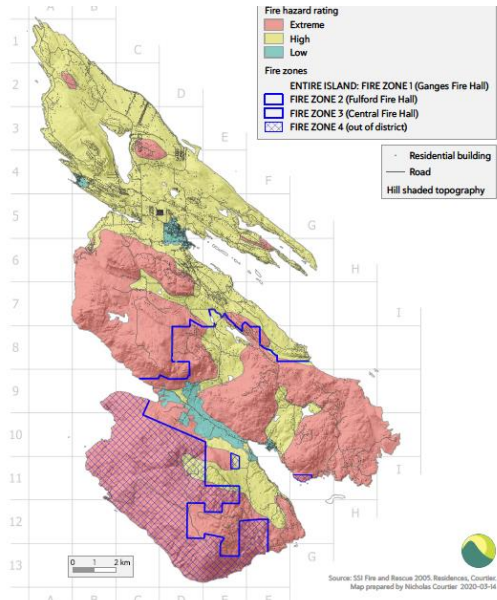
- Land Use Change
- Climate Change
- **Understory loss**
- Fire Ecology
- Invasive Species



Understanding cumulative impacts

- Land Use Change +
- Climate Change +
- Understory Loss +
- Fire Ecology +
- Invasive species

= Increased Fire Risk, Loss of biodiversity, Loss of our natural heritage, lost opportunity for carbon sequestration

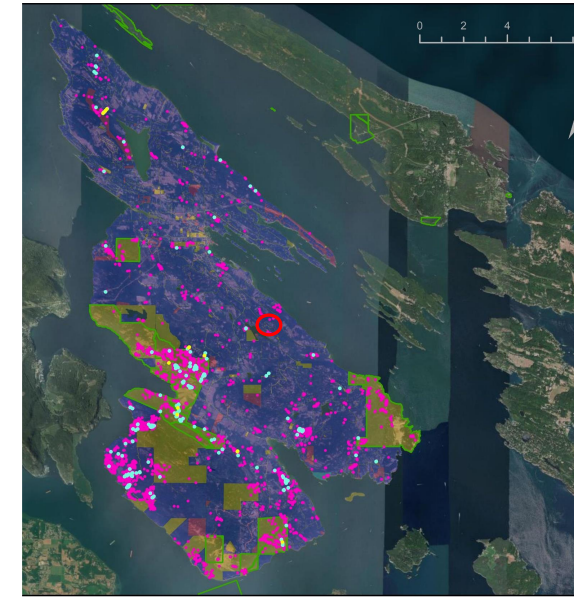


Our Climate Responsibility

Projected emissions from recent 10ha clearcut on Beddis Rd = 15,000 tonnes CO₂e

Or 3,260 cars

To restore would cost \$1.5M and >105 years to re-sequester carbon emitted



Benefits

1. Timely & accessible scientific evidence
2. Bring together priorities of ITC (CDF, Climate Change, Water, First Nations Reconciliation)
3. Prioritize management action



Tony MacLeod, Susan Hannon & Donna Martin planting Garry Oaks at AVNR

